

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-9 are allowable.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 is independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1-9 have been amended by way of this reply. The Examiner has noted certain grammatical errors in the claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting these errors and has amended the claims to more clearly recite the present invention. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Abstract

The specification is objected to for not clearly explaining the operation and description of the invention. Specifically, the Examiner noted that "of the same" should be specified in the abstract. By way of this reply, Applicant has amended the abstract to correct this and other formalities. Further, Applicant has amended the abstract to be less than 150 words. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Oath or Declaration

The Examiner asserts that the oath or declaration is defective, and thus, a new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.67(a) is required. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the specification to which the oath or declaration is directed has not been adequately

identified. However, Applicant submits that the following is considered acceptable as complying with 37 C.F.R. 1.63 as a minimum for identifying a specification when an oath or declaration is filed after the filing date of the application:

(E) title of the invention which was on the specification as filed and accompanied by a cover letter accurately identifying the application for which it was intended by either the application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number, e.g., 08/123,456), or serial number and filing date. Absent any statement(s) to the contrary, it will be presumed that the application filed in the USPTO is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the oath or declaration.

See MPEP § 602, Subsection VI, paragraph (E).

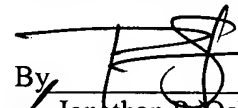
The Declaration states the title of the invention, "Electrical Connector Assembly," thus identifying the title of the invention which was on the Specification as filed. Further, the letter accompanying the Declaration for the present application identifies the application for which it was intended by title, application number, and filing date. A copy of the Declaration and letter accompanying the Declaration, as filed, are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. Accordingly, the Declaration filed for the referenced application is not defective, and withdrawal of the objection to the Declaration is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 07700/045001).

Dated: May 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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